

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0054] Method and apparatus for performing centralized cyclic redundancy checks (CRC). For one embodiment a current thread of execution compares a connection index with that of a previous thread of execution. If they share the same connection index, a CRC calculation may be performed without providing a CRC residue to a centralized CRC unit since the most recently produced CRC residue would be associated with a preceding sequential cell of the same packet. For an alternative embodiment a current thread of execution requests a CRC calculation and provides a connection index to the centralized CRC unit, which is used to access a content addressable memory (CAM). A hit in the CAM indicates that the CRC unit may use the CRC residue associated with the connection index in the CAM since it would have resulted from a preceding sequential cell.